

# Manitoba Exhibs vs. Juve Law

## Public Asked to Protest Against Proposed Act

A definite defensive battle has been opened by Manitoba theatre and film men against legislation by the Provincial Assembly which would ban children under 14 from entering theatres unless the films shown had been approved of as being in a special juvenile category. The proposed legislation, sponsored by the "Better Movies Committee," would remove any individual parental judgment in the matter.

### How to Keep 'Em Kicking

The Casino theatre, Toronto, which anticipated the current call for live shows and movies on the same bill years ago, has trouble keeping its chorines. Most of the kids come from the USA and go back after a while.

Since the war replacements have been hard to get. The American girls have been kept busy over the border and Canada develops few recruits. A couple of weeks ago it looked as if the house was really in a spot. The usual 16-girl line dwindled to eight. Then somebody got a bright idea.

The house recently replaced male aisle-guides with usherettes. Some of the usherettes were pressed into stage service. And made good.

Now they're handing out the kicks instead of listening to them.

The "Better Movies Committee" has been propagandizing along this line for several years and has

(Continued on Page 2)

## Theatre Statistics Show Increases

According to "Canada, 1942," published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Department of Trade and Commerce, the per capita expenditure at motion picture houses in Canada was \$3.29 in 1940 and \$3.03 in 1939.

Attendance increased 8.9 per cent from 138,497,043 paid admissions in 1939 to 150,811,667 in 1940. Boxoffice receipts (exclusive of amusement taxes) were \$37,589,216 for 1940, an increase of 10.5 per cent over the preceding year.

## USA Industry Plans to Try Out Blocks-of-12 System

With the motion picture industry's Unity Plan for selling films in blocks-of-12 already in the hands of the Department of Justice, attorneys for the five motion picture companies involved (MGM, Paramount, Warner Bros., 20th Century-Fox and RKO), are feverishly striving to work out a conciliation procedure acceptable to all in the USA industry.

Until last September, a theatre owner bought, sight unseen, a studio's entire seasonal output. To

## Vaudeville Up In Canada

If the revival of vaudeville in Canada continues to match the increasing pace of live piece-meal entertainment across the line a new worry for strictly movie houses will arise.

The third Canadian house to resort to flesh is the famed Royal Alexandra, Toronto, which is handled by Ernest Rawley. The Royal Alexandra, Toronto's leading legitimate house, also shelters roadshowings of movies, the most recent having been "Fantasia."

The Royal Alexandra will open two-a-day and prices will range from 50 cents to \$1.50. Name acts, supported by a stock line of chorus girls, will make up the bill,

(Continued on Page 2)

## Garfield as Gershwin

John Garfield has been chosen to play the role of George Gershwin in Warners' coming film biog of the late and great American composer. Gershwin died some years ago at a comparatively early age as his fame and talents were mounting.

## Midnight Shows Left Untouched

Midnight shows, recently a sore spot with exhibitors because of a proposed ban by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, Theatre and Film Section, will not be affected in any way at present. Theatre owners are free to conduct them as before.

Opposition arose when the news reached the trade unofficially that the Advisory Council had concurred.

(Continued on Page 3)

## Order is Set Aside In Theatre Dispute

Appellate court in Toronto recently set aside an order of Judge Reynolds of Hastings county. The order declared that Trent Theatres, Ltd., was wrongfully retaining possession from the landlord, Trenton Amusement Co., Ltd., or Trent Theatre in Trenton and ordered the tenant to be evicted if it did not vacate the premises.

The ruling of the appellate court, concurred in by Chief Justice Robertson, Mr. Justice Middleton and Mr. Justice Fisher, was made without prejudice to the landlord, Trenton Amusement Co., Ltd., making another application for possession of the premises under section 108 of the War Time Prices and Trade Board Act regulations enacted since the litigation commenced.

## Board Confirms Advisory Council

The Wartime Prices and Trade Board, under Donald Gordon, has confirmed the status of the film and theatre Advisory Council. The Council, comprising representatives of the various branches of the theatre industry, has been working with R. C. McMullen, director of the Theatre and Film Section of the Board, for several months.

## RKO Ottawa 'Alone' Preview

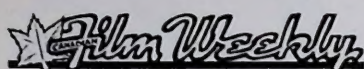
High British and Canadian government officials, and the Conclave of Air Ministers of the United Nations currently in session in Ottawa, were guests of RKO Radio at a private preview of "They Flew Alone" recently.

The screening, held at the Regent Theatre, was preceded by a cocktail party, and present were Anna Neagle, star of the picture, Herbert Wilcox, who directed and produced it, and Leo M. Devaney, RKO Radio's Canadian Division Manager.

**LAURENCE NAMED FOX  
FOREIGN SALES CHIEF**

Laudy Laurence leaves his spot at United Artists to fill the vacancy which occurred at 20th Century-Fox when Walter Hutchinson, Foreign Sales Head, died recently. Laurence was a UA vice-president.





Vol. 8, No. 23 June 3rd, 1942  
HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

Address all communications to—The Managing Editor,  
Canadian Film Weekly, 21 Dundas Square, Toronto, Canada.  
Published by Film Publications of Canada, Ltd., 5th Floor, 21 Dundas Square,  
Toronto, Ont., Canada. Phone ADelaide 4310. Price 5 cents each or \$2.00 per year.

## Now It's Sunday Shows

It looks as if the motion picture industry will be playing another one of those innocent-bystander-gets-clouted roles shortly—this time over the question of Sunday movies in certain parts of Canada.

In Vancouver the Labor Council has declared itself for Sunday shows as recreation for shipyard workers, many of whom work six full days per week.

Dan O'Brien, organizer for the Canadian Congress of Labor, recommended that the Council declare itself in favor of the suggestion and the Council did. President E. F. Leary stated that the organization had no desire to offend religious bodies but "if it is in the interests of the health and recreation of the men, we are for it." Such examples as Seattle, also a shipyard city facing the same problem and helping it with Sunday shows, were pointed out.

As soon as news of the Labor Council's position became known spokesmen of the Vancouver Ministerial Association opened an attack on the idea.

In no way did the idea get any help from theatre people, yet it is inevitable that they will in some way become a target. That has happened almost in every place where local bodies, with Provincial permits, have used the theatre for Sunday evening war efforts shows.

The Labor people mean this. They provide a great bulk of the patronage and are inseparable from the war effort. Some say that they are the war effort. They are the greatest factor in it. They have branches in every city.

Theatre men are maintaining a nervous silence.

## In Australia

Here, for your further information, is a report from Australia about the Sunday show situation there. We reprint it without comment:

"The Yank expeditionary forces expected only a battle with guns when they arrived here. But they found themselves engaged in a verbal film battle as well. And the Yanks came out on top!

"The 300-year-old blue law prohibiting Sunday shows has been relaxed in Sydney and Melbourne following weeks of bitter controversy so that the American soldiers can take in a week-end show. The discussion began when it was found that many men in the armed forces had their only day of leave on the Sabbath. The Victorian cabinet voted to allow one stage show and one movie to remain open on Sundays for uniformed men and one companion.

"An odd note in the controversy was the fact that Major J. E. Kenny, chief U.S. Army chaplain, was one of the leaders in the fight for Sunday performances.

"I think a soldier should be allowed to take a lady friend to Sunday shows," he said. "It will promote the efficiency of the troops if they can have the normal life they led in the States. There the movies are open on Sundays with the approval of nearly all religious bodies."

"Major Lynn Cowan, manager of the U.S. Army special service organization, was another of the leaders in the fight which aroused national furore. He branded the objectors as 'wowsers'."

## Manitoba Exhibs Fight Restriction

(Continued from Page 1)

now reached the point where its members are requesting that their ideas be made law. Last year the committee petitioned legislators for stricter control of moving pictures in Manitoba and this year the Assembly set up a motion picture committee to weigh the matter. C. S. Rice-Jones, chairman of the Manitoba Censor Board, testified before this committee that exhibitors considered Manitoba censorship the strictest in Canada.

The government shelved the matter temporarily at the request of exhibitors and distributors while they examined the claims from the inside in an endeavour to please the petitioners. But neither the Manitoba Motion Picture Exhibitors Association nor the Winnipeg Film Board of Trade seem to have been able to strike a happy position.

The first appeal to the public by theatre and film men has been to offer cards to parents. These, addressed to the special committee of the Legislative Assembly, protest against any suggested change in the present law. A considerable number of the cards have already been signed and forwarded.

The Manitoba Censor Board classifies films suitable for family entertainment as "general" and all others as "adult." During 1941-42, from May 1st, 1941, to April 30th, 1942, the Board checked 2,000 films and rejected only 28. Ten were feature-length and six of these were passed on modification.

E. K. Williams, K.C., who acted for the exhibitors before the special committee, offered to show the films described as objectionable before the committee if the petitioners would name them. He asked the "Better Movies Committee" to name the particular pictures which they were protesting; to state which of the present regulations were not being enforced; and what promises made by exhibitors had not been kept.

Though the answers to these questions were not satisfactory the "Better Movies Committee," unopposed actively before the public, made progress. This resulted in the organized opposition now being staged by film and theatre men.

Complete Theatre Equipment  
and Supplies

**COLEMAN  
ELECTRIC CO.**  
258 VICTORIA ST.,  
Toronto, Ont.

## Vaudeville Up In Canada

(Continued from Page 1)

which will be changed weekly.

The Gayety, Montreal, which reopened with vaudeville recently, has been doing well with an evening price scale which ranges from \$1 to 22 cents. So far no pictures have been used in conjunction with the acts. In Vancouver one of the leading theatres has been following a policy of movies and a name band on the stage.

Most successful of Canadian houses offering live entertainment is the Casino, Toronto, which plays movies and burlesque. This house has been handling crowds for years now. With vaudeville using chorus lines and burlesque offering up to six different acts per show both forms of entertainment are almost the same in many cases.

There isn't a doubt in the world that the Canadian trend is part of the long-heralded comeback of vaudeville. In the USA live variety entertainment is popping up everywhere. Few big cities are without a flesh show or plans for one at the moment. The extensive use of stage acts for camp entertainment has tickled the forgotten tastes of showgoers for live stuff.

It is doubtful, of course, that the public is changing its entertainment tastes. The return of vaudeville is more likely due to the increased demand for entertainment and relaxation of a more varied nature. But movie houses, in many instances, may be forced to play acts to meet the competition of houses playing straight vaudeville or both stage and screen fare.

**For Theatre  
Comfort  
consult**

**AIR CONDITIONING  
ENGINEERING CO.**

1104 BAY ST.  
Tel. RA. 5576  
TORONTO

**HEATING AND VENTILATING  
CONTRACTORS AND ENGINEERS**



## Midnight Shows Left Untouched

(Continued from Page 1)

red in a request by Price Board officials that the ban be put on all Sunday midnight shows. Many exhibitors were worried that an order would arrive that would affect the Sunday midnight show before May 24th and weren't sure that they should go ahead with them.

It was anticipated that such an order would arrive sometime before June 1st. However, no decision came from Ottawa and exhibitors are confident that any ban, if it came at all, would be delayed for a long time yet.

Mr. McMullen, director of the theatre and film section of the Board, favors the discontinuance of midnight shows at all times except pre-holiday occasions. He said that no order has arrived as yet and he is not in any way anticipating its content.

Originally it was understood that power saving was behind such a step but this reason seems to have faded out in the face of obvious lack of general action in this direction from Ottawa. To what extent reformist elements, quite active of late in a number of places and in a number of ways, are having an effect on patronage restrictions is not known—as far as the midnight show is concerned.

The opposition to midnight shows has grown in proportion to a demand for them as a wartime need. Many towns now have midnight shows which did not have them before the war. In other places local councils have yielded to pressure and restricted them to six per year. The midnight show question has always been settled heretofore by the legislators of the area in dispute.

### WARNING!

Lest You Be Shut Out

We Have Several Thousand  
Used and Reconditioned  
All Types

### THEATRE CHAIRS FOR SALE

— AT BARGAIN PRICES —

Our reconditioned chairs look as new  
and fine enough for any theatre  
anywhere.

— SPECIAL —

1,820 Very Fine fully padded velour-  
covered backs, spring cushioned  
seats NOW just being removed  
from Metropolitan Theatre, Win-  
nipeg, Manitoba.

YOU'LL HAVE TO HURRY!  
THESE CHAIRS COMING  
OUT JUNE 13th

Have large stocks of Used Chairs in  
Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary  
and Vancouver. 5,000 yds. new British  
theatre carpet just arrived.

WRITE FOR FULL PARTICULARS  
LA SALLE RECREATIONS  
LIMITED

(Theatre Seating Division)  
945 GRANVILLE ST. VANCOUVER



## New Problem

Fidgety patrons, waiting in different parts of large theatres in order to see the program from the beginning, are causing minor damage to the furniture. War nerves, perhaps.

Folks are so used to being busy all the time at their daily work and their evening war effort several times a week that waiting wears on them. They sit down and get up innumerable times, sit on the arms of chairs, chain-smoke and knock over ash-stands.

There's nothing alarming in this impatience. The desire to be doing something all the time is an indication of the quickened national tempo and the will to finish the job.

## Bicyclone

Another one who whips his wheel to work these days is Len Bishop, the Tivoli's affable manager. Len may wind up with a bicycle face, which is what they called that set look the boys got from bucking the breeze. At least, that's what they used to call it in the '90's.

Some of the boys were going to take advantage of Len's patriotism but thought better of it. They were going to have a sign made advertising the current Tivoli attraction and have it fitted below the crossbars, the way you see it on the bikes of drug-store delivery boys.

Say, it's not a bad idea at that.

## Observanda

Vernon Burns, who used to manage the Regent, Sudbury, before joining the RCAF, was around on leave saying hello. Vern had an auspicious induction into the air force—a 39-day confinement for scarlet fever!... A lucky lad was Jay Frank of the Hal Horne agency, which handles Fox exploitation. Jay came up here to create some excitement for "To the Shores of Tripoli"—a tough assignment because that picture is strictly American fare and it was tough to find an angle or a hookup with any of the Canadian services. When things looked dreariest the American Marines recruiting mission hit Toronto, exciting interest and commanding newspaper space, and Jay worked them into his exploitation weave... Gil Sterling of the Pylon is the daddy of a new baby girl—but we haven't received our cigar yet. Kick in, Gil, there's no rationing on the smudges yet... On the Square last week was Irene Baird, NFB publicity gal, who escorted "Geopolitik," the latest "Canada Carries On" release, into town.

## Surprise

Those who think French Canada's interest in the war runs second to the rest of Canada will be surprised at what happened when "The Girl From Leningrad," Esquire's Russian film, played His Majesty's Theatre, Montreal.

The theatre people didn't take things as seriously as they should have, apparently. There wasn't even a doorman on hand and but three girl usherettes were provided.

Inside of two hours 2,000 persons tried to get in to see the film, which got an expert buildup in Montreal from Max Chic, its press agent. The manager had his hands full until supervisors, etc., of the Consolidated chain came a-running and acted in every necessary capacity to smoothen things out.

## An Old Hand—or Foot

Another Reserve Army gag brought back by marching film-ites deals with the recruit chided about his poor parading.

"Don't worry about me," he told the officer, "I've had lots of experience marching."

"When?" he was asked.

"Every May Day!" was the answer.

## USA Awaits New Sales Plan

(Continued from Page 1)

Monogram, and Republic became party to the plan. The small companies didn't, and the plan automatically lapsed June 1.

Both the producers and theatre owners agree that the blind selling and block-booking of the old regime was harmful. Too many fifth-rate films were palmed off on the theatre owners and the general public. And although the idea was good, blocks-of-five selling was impractical. So a happy compromise was worked out, blocks-of-12 selling.

This plan, submitted to the Department of Justice for final approval, provides for trade previews of five films and identifies the other seven to be sold as quarterly packages. The theatre owner also has cancellation rights, and in case of a producer-owner dispute, both parties agree to conciliate. The details of the conciliatory machinery are being worked out, and will probably be presented to the federal judge who signed the consent decree, June 1.

## No Air Raid Rules From Ontario Yet

The preparation of a general guide for Ontario theatres as to conduct during air raids seems to have been forgotten. Months ago a committee was set up and several tryouts held at a Toronto theatre. The results were noted and recommendations were to have been brought back by Mr. W. J. Scott, Ontario Fire Marshal.

So far nothing has been done—and the matter seems to be dead. Famous Players issued rules for its own theatres and other circuits have been making their own plans in case of emergency. But there's no set of overall rules up to now.

FOR ALL  
THEATRE  
EQUIPMENT  
and  
SUPPLIES

—Call on—

**PERKINS**  
ELECTRIC  
COMPANY LIMITED  
277 VICTORIA STREET TORONTO 2027 AUBURN STREET MONTREAL



# Digest of Reviews

## Columbia Shorts

### GEOPOLITIK (Hitler's Plan for Empire)

(Canada Carries On series—National Film Board)

This is the blueprint of Hitler's plan for world conquest and how he hopes to achieve it. There is nothing to compare with NFB's shorts for clear and concise understanding by common people of what is going on in global warfare. This issue of the series is among the best to date. The average person sees too few explanations that are not beyond his mental horizon in matters of universal strategy. Here is one big boost toward easier realization. Lorne Green narrates.

### UNDER THE SHEDDING CHESTNUT TREE (Fable Cartoon)

The village smithy is a Pelican with a Donald Duck-like rage. The chestnuts keep conking him and his keg of dynamite, which is intended for the tree, gets him instead.

### WILD AND WOOLY WEST (Fantasy Cartoons)

The BBWolf is the badman who hectors a dog sheriff. After a series of cute and clever capers Justice prevails.

### WHAT'S THE MATADOR? (The Three Stooges)

Columbia's goofy trio go Mexican and do their clowning in a bullring. They're as rough and rowdy as ever.

### COLLEGE CHAMPIONS (The World of Sports)

A fast-moving review of varsity athletic pastimes talked up by Bill Stern. Lacrosse is presented with a big Canadian verbal buildup.

## Paramount Shorts

### UNUSUAL OCCUPATIONS

Interesting color gallery of "It's-a-Living" addicts. It's footage is devoted to the only woman zoologist in the world; goldfish breeding on a big scale and a man-and-wife team of sharpshooters.

### POPULAR SCIENCE

This is mainly given over the training of USAirmen and the flyer stuff goes well with color.

### NOTHING BUT NERVES

The dour-faced Robert Benchley delivers a lecture on the nonsense that plagues your nervous system—and succumbs to his own text.

### OLIVE OYL AND WATER DON'T MIX (Popeye Cartoon)

Popeye and his barrel-chested buddy vie for the affections of Olive Oyl, almost wrecking a battleship in the process.

### THE SKY PRINCESS (Madcap Models)

George Pal's stiff little Puppetoons present a fairy tale about a bad old witch, a sleeping beauty and a gallant prince. The color is beautiful.

## Mutual Screen Service

### KEEPERS OF THE LIGHT (Associated Screen News)

What power means to the war effort is well explained in this Hydro-Electric reel. Highway and factory are the back-grounds.

## 20th Century-Fox

### WHISPERING GHOSTS

Payoff: Okay comedy for the growing clan of Milton Berle fans.

What Goes On: Berle is a radio detective trying to solve a murder mystery on an old schooner carrying a cargo of standard scare props—and diamonds.

Sizeup: Brenda Joyce, John Shelton, John Carradine and Willie Best keep it rolling.

## Esquire

### THE MIDDLE WATCH

Payoff: Amusing English comedy.

What Goes On: Two young ladies, leftover from an officer's dance, cause complications by being trapped on board a battleship when it is ordered to sea.

Sizeup: Two popular names—Jack Buchanan and Fred Emney. On hand: Rommey Brent, Greta Gynt and Kay Walsh.

## Regal

### MOKEY

Payoff: Long and drawn-out (it seems) study of a child lacking parental care.

What Goes On: Bobby Blake is a kid who gets into trouble but isn't a bad boy.

Sizeup: Has certain elements of appeal, as all kid stories have. In the cast Dan Daily, Jr., Donna Reed and Cordell Hickman.

## Vitagraph

### IN THIS OUR LIFE

Payoff: This story of feminine chicanery, with its morbidity, fits into the clientele field that boosted "King's Row" and "Little Foxes" into the money.

What Goes On: Bette Davis plays what is almost a female version of Hitler. She's a jazz-mad, hateful wench who swipes Dennis Morgan from sister Olivia de Havilland while she (Davis) is engaged to George Brent. She drives Morgan to suicide; helps uncle Charles Coburn drink himself to a slow death; makes another play for Brent, who is now sweethearting Olivia; kills a child and injures its mother during a hit-and-run episode; tries to send the Negro handyman to the chair for it; and finally burns to death when her car crashes while running away. Wew!

Sizeup: The acting is excellent and Miss Davies, as a pretty kind of witch, is right in form. The most novel part of the picture is the straightforward dialogue pointing out what little chance a colored man has generally. Other expert roles are done by Frank Craven, Billie Burke, Hattie McDaniel, Lee Patrick and Ernest Anderson.

## Universal

### BROADWAY

Payoff: This picture of gangsters during prohibition is still entertaining and interesting without being startling. Plenty of nice music but no big sets.

What Goes On: George Raft, hoofer, who loves chorine Janet Blair, who hoofs in bootlegger Brod Crawford's night club and is smitten with the boss. Pat O'Brien is a copper trying to pin a murder on Crawford. Crawford frames Raft for it. Then Brod is bumped off by the sweetheart of deceased, which straightens out a lot of things.

Sizeup: Plenty of nice post-war tunes. Marjorie Rambeau does a tired old showgal well.

## EXHIBITORS BOOKING ASSOCIATION

A thoroughly reliable, tried and proven buying and booking service for Independent Theatre Owners.

21 DUNDAS SQUARE  
Toronto

Phone: Adelaide 4316

Frank Meyers, Manager



[p. 4a]  
*Something New Has Been Added To  
A Great Young Star!*



Edward Small presents  
To The Exhibitors of America

*Shirley Temple*

in her first grown-up role

**"MISS ANNIE ROONEY"**



[p46]



This Is The Moment  
Your Showmanship  
Has Waited For —

*Shirley's  
First Kiss!*

in the happy hit that tops  
everything Shirley's ever  
done before!

EDWARD SMALL  
presents

*Shirley Temple* in

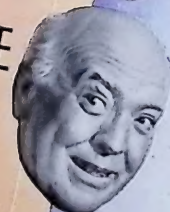
MISS  
ANNIE  
ROONEY

with

WILLIAM GARGAN GUY KIBBEE  
DICKIE MOORE

Original Screenplay by GEORGE BRUCE  
Directed by EDWIN L. MARIN

RELEASED THRU UNITED ARTISTS



RELEASED NATIONALLY MAY 29th!

... Perfectly timed to the great national magazine campaign  
in **LIFE, LOOK** and other important publications!



## Bernstein Known In United States

Sidney Bernstein, founder and chief of the British Granada cinema circuit, who relinquished business interests to become unpaid adviser to the British Films Ministry of Information, arrived in the United States by clipper or bomber some time last week to become film liaison man between London and Hollywood, New York and Washington. His duties are to arrange showings of new British Ministry of Information films in America, to contrive the exchange of film material and the pooling of ideas between the two countries so as to achieve complete co-ordination in films. As the contact between Hollywood and England on fictional war stories, he will give the United States studios the benefit of his experience gained in England on wartime screen problems.

Bernstein is no stranger to America. Last year he came to this country to supervise the distribution of "Target for Tonight" to 12,000 theatres in North and South America. Besides this he has lived in Hollywood, where he studied production. A pioneering film man, he helped found the the London Film Society, which introduced the best Russian films to British audiences. And he was the first cinema man to institute audience research surveys, issuing questionnaires twice yearly, inviting audience opinions of programs, stars, etc.

When he first "took over" as adviser of the Films Ministry of Information that organization had produced only three pictures. Now it is making 200 information training and technical films yearly.

**"New Super GARDINER Projector"**  
With Barrel rear shutter  
Has no equal for fine projection and long life.  
As low as \$9.00 weekly.  
**GET OUR PRICES AND YOU WILL SURELY BUY FROM US**  
**"YOU CAN GUESS THE REASON"**

**SAVE 20% OR MORE OF YOUR MONEY**

on "THE BEST IN"  
SOUND PROJECTORS AND  
COMPLETE THEATRE SUPPLIES  
SPECIALISTS FOR 25 YEARS  
ASK THE MAN  
WHO KNOWS US

**DOMINION THEATRE EQUIPMENT CO**  
847 DAVIE ST VANCOUVER B.C.

## ECHOES and REFLECTIONS

### Horses, Horses, Horses

Crazy over horses. Who isn't? Film men certainly are. A while back one Hollywood studio got an executive order barring bookies from the lot. And even at the outlets the interest is strong, since it gives showfolk somewhere to go in the afternoon.

Betting, eyeing and racing the animated hides goes to make up the sport of kings and the king of sports, as the prose of the game has it. It's not just a sport but a near-major industry. And like the motion picture business, it caters to people who like the lighter side of life.

Who knows how far the game dates back? Before even that famous day when Ben Hur barged home ahead of the field in the harness horse events. In the USA-to-be Paul Revere gave it an impetus by beating the Redcoats to the colonists.

Around the over-exploited beast of burden has arisen a private world of vast dimensions.

There's an equine aristocracy that hops hurdles, hounds foxes, chases ribbons, pursues purses and snubs all but the simple and long-suffering dobbies.

There's a horsey Intelligentsia that studies racing literature all the livelong day and night. Its members seek the solution of winning form with the same avidity as the scientist searching for the mystery of life.

The people on both these sides of horsedom are motivated by love, pleasure and folding money. Amongst them are parasites, schemers and drudges. Here are also traditions and traitors.

To us the undercrust is more interesting than the fancy folk. Yea, even unto the hangers-on and hustlers.

### Take Touts . . .

Take touts, for instance. An itinerant clan, the better ones follow the sun as much as any Vanderbilt—in ordinary times, of course. They're a crafty crowd and know much about human nature. To them their business is "lookin' for fresh fools every day."

Though they operate singly or in pairs, they're extremely sociable. Get a group of them together and they'll tell you the most interesting stories and charming lies you'll hear anywhere.

Their modes of operation are many. They work from a list of successful schemes or whip up a new one on the spot. Custom-tailored for you.

One may borrow a pencil, whisper that he has a tieup with the stables, introduce a confederate as a horse owner, and offer a tip for a share in the winning bet. If there are nine horses in the race, he approaches nine people, giving each a tip on a different horse. In this way he's sure of one successful client.

Approaches vary but the idea is always the same—returns without investment. One says that he's a jockey on his day off, another that he's a track official. If you're gullible enough to give him the money for a suggested wager he disappears with it. That happens often. Why should he take a chance? A dollar in his hand is worth ten in your pocket.

### Here's Some Tricks . . .

One victim gave a tout \$50—half to bet on the horse he said would win, the rest to pay off the jockey on the favorite so that he would pull it. That was the lie. The tout took the money, headed for the mutual machines and didn't come back.

Surprisingly, the horse named by the tout shared a photo finish with the favorite but was declared the loser. The victim finally located the tout.

"What happened to the fix?" he complained.

The tout looked sorrowful. "I bet \$25 on the horse and gave \$25 to the jockey," he explained. "But I had no more money so I couldn't fix the photographer!"

Another tout took a sucker's money but didn't give him the name of the horse. After the race he came back.

"Tough luck," he told the victim. "I bet on the jockey dressed in red. You saw him run last, didn't you?"

The sucker had. But "the jockey dressed in red" was the red-coated warden who runs behind each race. He's there to help a thrown jockey or pull in a runaway.

Not till the next race did the sucker realize that he had been rooked.

## Studios Hunt Substitutes

Hollywood's initial concentrated effort to find suitable substitutes for vital materials denied the film industry because of priority rulings got under way last week when 20th Century-Fox held a meeting to discuss possibilities. The confab was under the supervision of Fred L. Metzler.

While attempting to devise new materials for use on the various sets, the group considered additional methods of conserving equipment already on hand. Technicians and set workers made up the group at the meeting. A board of department heads will later pass on the suitability of the suggestions.

Such a meeting has been planned since war broke out in December. The technicians have realized the acute shortage and have independently invented many material-saving devices.

A system of encouraging men in the developing of new ideas will be set-up whereby cash prizes are to be offered. Spokesmen for the studios agree that this will benefit them as well as the workers. Our supply of necessary materials is becoming low," Metzler said. "With no apparent market from which to purchase more, a survey of our operating materials indicates that unless substitutes and new methods are found, there is a danger of curtailing production."

For  
Theatre Requirements

**CONTRACT  
SALES  
OFFICE**

PHONE TR. 1257  
6TH FLOOR

EATON'S  
College Street





# Man, It's Hot In There!

(THIRD ARTICLE)

## Doings at Columbia Lot

William Holden, Columbia contract star, celebrated his twenty-fourth birthday this week by enlisting as a private in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. The enlistment followed by one day his completion of added scenes with co-star Frances Dee, in the company's "Meet The Stewarts," directed by Alfred E. Green and produced by Robert Sparks. Among Holden's successful starring films for Columbia have been "Golden Boy," in which he made his screen debut, "Arizona" and "Texas."

Columbia's important forthcoming Joan Crawford-Melvyn Douglas starrer, "He Kissed The Bride," will be released under the title "They All Kissed The Bride." This topflight production was directed by Alexander Hall. Produced by Edward Kaufman, the new laugh film has a brilliant supporting cast, featuring such players as Roland Young, Gillie Burke, Allen Jenkins, Helen Parrish, Andrew Tombes and Emory Parnell.

The anti-Nazi speech delivered by Anton Walbrook in Columbia's "49th Parallel," has been broadcast to Nazi-occupied Europe by the Office of the Coordinator of Information as part of its propaganda war to beat the Axis. The speech in which a group of German Canadians turn down the fifth column appeal of a Nazi officer has been widely reprinted in papers throughout the country and has been the subject of much editorial comment. In it Anton Walbrook speaking for free Germans everywhere renounces any kinship to the Nazi brood which endeavors to speak for the German people. "The Invaders," directed by Michael Powell, stars Laurence Olivier, Leslie Howard and Raymond Massey with Anton Walbrook, Glynn Johns and Eric Portman in featured roles.

## Fleischer to Manage Columbia Cartoons

Dave Fleischer has been appointed by Columbia Pictures to take charge of its entire cartoon production unit.

Coming to Columbia after an association of 15 years with Paramount he will be in charge of the Color Rhapsodies and Phantasies Cartoon series.

## How to Guard Against Trouble With the Ventilation System—Refrigeration Air Conditioning Systems

**Blower, Motor and Starter:** Whether the blower equipment is installed as a separate unit or is combined in package form with compressor and coils it still requires adequate attention. The blower bearings should be checked, and properly lubricated; belts must be kept in alignment, with proper tension maintained. Motor and starter must be checked, oiled, and correctly used. The air handling equipment must operate, otherwise there will be no service or value whatever from your other air conditioning apparatus.

**Cooling Chamber or Coils:** Whether the system employs coils or spray type cooling chamber (also called dehumidifier, air washer, etc.) the same points covered by the preceding sections are here referred to.

**Compressor and Compressor Motor:** The motor which operates the compressor must, of course, have the same care and attention as any other electric motor. Proper oiling or greasing and a periodic check of the wiring and fusing will assure that the motor remains at its proper efficiency. Since motors and parts for motors may be very difficult to obtain, these customary rules will indeed warrant that the operating engineer, or whoever is charged with the responsibility of the system, keep close touch, and make regular check-ups of these parts. One of the leading manufacturers of air conditioning systems for theatres recently put out a bulletin, and outlined the following items or points which are to guide the operator whose duties include maintenance of the compressor:

1. Clean crankcase.
2. Check all fittings and joints for leaks.
3. Pump system down and shut all valves.
4. Check alignment of motor sheave.
5. Clean and oil motor bearings.
6. Check water pump.

**Coil Section:** There are, of course, certain accessories or controls used in a refrigeration system which are not required with deep well or evaporative cooling plants. The following additional suggestions are given, with particular respect to the coil section and include points of check-up which will apply to the "package" type equipment as well as to the more common central station type system.

1. Clean liquid line strainer.
2. Check solenoid valve.

3. Clean and check all bearings.
4. Check pulley and belt alignment (package type units.)
5. Touch up inside of cabinet and mastic (on cabinet or package units.)

**Condenser Section:** Many air conditioning systems have as an important part an evaporative condenser. In fact, most installations made in more recent years include the evaporative condenser, the function of which is to cut down the water consumption of the system as a whole and, at the same time, increase the efficiency of the job. One manufacturer is now building refrigeration apparatus for theatres which includes the evaporative condenser section as an integral working part of the complete system, and on these units, therefore, proper care and maintenance of the condenser section is just as important as any of the other parts. Watch and check the following points:

1. Clean and inspect bearings.
2. Paint inside water tank with Zinc Chromate or other rust resisting paint.
3. Touch up inside paint.
4. Set pulley and belt alignments.
5. Paint receiver.
6. Recondition (if necessary) spray headers.
7. Check all coils and pipe joints for leaks.

It is pretty well agreed that operation of refrigeration systems has been comparatively simplified in the past few years, and that with normal care and attention, a well designed refrigeration system will function with a minimum of difficulty. However, for those who are located where servicing by a reputable refrigeration service company is available, it is recommended that the compressor be and then placed in operation by a checked at the end of each season, good refrigeration mechanic at the start of the new season. A compressor is another form of pump, and once its workings are understood, and the refrigeration mechanic does know the machine, serious trouble can be pretty well done away with. Many communities have refrigeration service companies who will operate under a service contract, whereby they inspect and service the component parts of the system once or twice a month during its operating season and give it a thorough checkup at the beginning and the end of each season.

(To be continued)

## Vancouver and Calgary Notes

### Vancouver

Dave Griesdorf, Odeon District Manager in B.C., has licked the flu and is back at work. Odeon's ace Vancouver house, the Vogue, was recently presented a "certificate of distinction" by Mayor Cornett. It shared the bow with 35 other cinemas on the continent. Award based on innovations in structure and management especially designed to please the patrons.

Harry Page, United Artists booker, has gone into the Navy—a film-row cocktail soiree christened his exit.

Syd Chatten, former film inspector at Universal, now road-showing with "Hellzapoppin'" recently dropped into the old home town for a short visit. He brought along his lovely frau, an ex-Cavalcade gal. First thing he did upon arriving in the film exchange building was to heft a few cans and give some film a trial spin on the re-winds just to make sure he had not lost his old adeptness at winding and splicing.

### Vitagraph—Calgary

Ralph Mitcheltree (Capitol) had a sweet campaign on "One Foot In Heaven"—signed ads featured.

With the active forces: John Cardell, former booker, left Vitagraph April 11 to enter military service with rank of Lieutenant in the Calgary Highlanders. Sam Hapton, former shipper, member of the RCAF stationed in St. Johns, Newfoundland, is serving with the Military Police. Max Belkin, former assistant booker, member of the RCAF stationed in High River, Alberta is taking his Service Flying course. Sam Shnitka, former revisor, enlisted as a radio technician in the RCAF and is now stationed in England.

Mr. A. Monk has finished directing a number of short subjects on army life at Currie Barracks for the National Film Board.

Seventy-five Japanese families were evacuated from the coastal area of B.C. and shipped into Picture Butte, Alberta, to help with the sugar beet crop. Joe Godfrey (Melody, Picture Butte) advises that these Japanese evacuees are excellent theatrogoers and that they have helped to compensate the theatre for the many young men who have enlisted into the armed services.



# ***Snips and Snaps . . .***

## **DESPERATE JOURNEY**

### ***Assassin***



**ALAN LADD** hits a bull's eye performance as the cold-blooded sharpshooter in "This Gun For Hire," the action-packed romance which co-stars him opposite Veronica Lake and Robert Preston. He's Hollywood's latest he-man rave.



**ERROL FLYNN, ALAN HALE and RONALD REAGAN**— principals in Warners' "Desperate Journey". Others prominent in the cast are Raymond Massey, Arthur Kennedy and Nancy Coleman.

### ***Mystery Girl***



Maria Montez, currently starred in Universal's "The Mystery Of Marie Roget", tops her flower print silk jersey afternoon dress with a wide brim hat of Shantung baku, banded in white felt. Beige accessories complete this Spring costume.

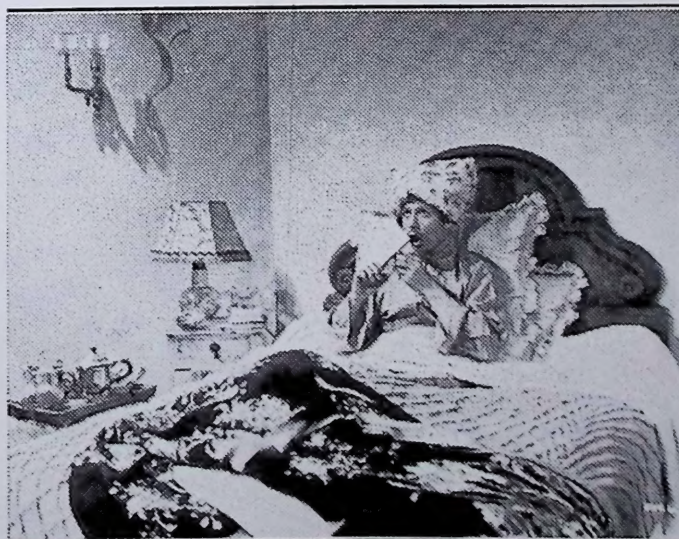


### ***V for Jinx***



It's V for Victory with Jinx Falkenberg and Joan Woodbury in Columbia's gay new film-musical, "Sweetheart of the Fleet."

### ***Formby Floored***



George Formby in Columbia's laugh hit, "South American George."

### ***The Stewarts***



Co-stars in Columbia's "Meet the Stewarts" are William Holden and Francis Dee.





*This*  
**SISTER OF MERCY**  
counts on *you!*

**THE RED CROSS NEEDS \$9,000,000 NOW**  
**CAMPAIGN STARTS MAY 11TH**

FROM A BOMB shattered cottage comes the cry of a child in agony. In a German prison Camp a Canadian boy is lonely, hungry. Rescued sailors come ashore—sick, wounded, all their possessions gone. And always this Sister of Mercy is there, ready with quick help for the hurt and the suffering, ready to give merciful care to the orphan and the homeless.

The Red Cross counts on you. Go with this Sister of Mercy into a war-torn world. Stand by her side as she ministers to those who bear the grief and pain. Your Red Cross dollars have a great and noble work to do. Open your heart and your purse strings. Give generously.

The Canadian Red Cross Society's accounts are subject to scrutiny by the Auditor General of Canada.

**The only National Campaign this year for War Service Funds**

**CANADIAN + RED CROSS**

***GIVE to relieve human suffering!***

This space contributed by Twinx Century Theatres Corporation